EXHIBIT 5

April 5, 2023

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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT	1 CONTENTS
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF OKLAHOMA	2 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. PIGNATO 5
RANDY LUNDY,) Plaintiff,)	3 CROSS EXAMINATION BY MR. STEWART38
)	4
-vs-) No. CIV-22-699-F	5 EXHIBITS
) HL MOTOR GROUP, INC., ET)	6 EXHIBIT NUMBER 118
AL.,	7 EXHIBIT NUMBER 230
Defendants.	8
FARMERS MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE)	9
COMPANY OF OKARCHE,)	10
Plaintiff,)	11
) -vs-)	12
)	13
HL MOTOR GROUP, INC., ET AL.)	14
Defendants.)	15
	16
VIDEOTAPED/TELECONFERENCE DEPOSITION OF ALEXANDER SAITOV	17
TAKEN ON BEHALF OF FARMERS MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF OKARCHE	18
ON APRIL 5, 2023	19
	20
REPORTED BY: MARTA MATTINGLY, CSR, RMR	21
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1 (Pages 1 to 4)

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1	confused, very confused. Obviously, he was stressing	1 correct?
2	out. But I examined his logbooks, he complied. He had	2 A We are not
3	necessary he took necessary rest breaks, slept for	3 MR. FRANZ: Objection. That misstates
4	ten hours. So based on this evidence, the conclusion	4 prior testimony.
5	the conclusion that he was sleepy, it's speculation.	5 Q (By Mr. Pignato) Go ahead.
6	There wasn't evidence that he was sleepy.	6 A As long as my legal counsel is objecting, I
7	Q So if I understand you correctly, the evidence	7 would rather not answer this question.
8	that supports your belief that Mr. Milanovic lost	8 MR. FRANZ: No, Alex, you can answer. I
9	consciousness before he left the roadway is, in part,	9 have laid the objection, but you can answer the
10	the medical records for his treatment at Oklahoma	10 question. I am not instructing you to not answer.
11	Medical Hospital after this accident?	11 THE WITNESS: So we are not aware of the
12	A Yes. Yes.	12 name or nature of that medical condition.
13	Q Do any of the medical records say he lost	13 MR. STEWART: Are we finished with the
14	consciousness before he left the roadway as opposed to	14 exhibit?
15	his impact with the houses?	MR. PIGNATO: Yes, thank you, Rodney.
16	A I I don't recall that any of medical	16 MR. STEWART: That's apparently my job
17	records says that.	17 today, my role.
18	Q What medical condition, then, caused him to	MR. PIGNATO: I have a feeling you are
19	leave the roadway?	going to have a much more important role shortly.
20	A I am not medical expert. I cannot tell you	Q (By Mr. Pignato) Mr. Saitov, do you know
21	Q Does your company	21 whether or not Mr. Milanovic has experienced any similar
22	A I cannot answer this question.	medical episodes since or after August 8, 2020?
23	Q I interrupted you. I apologize. Does your	23 A No. I am not aware.
24	company take a position on whether or not Mr. Milanovic	Q Do you know if any doctor has ever told Mr.
25	had a medical condition that caused him to lose	25 Milanovic, after August 8, 2020, that he suffered some
		- 06
	Page 34	Page 36
1	consciousness and leave the roadway?	sort of medical episode on August 8, 2020, that caused
2	consciousness and leave the roadway? A It's our company's understanding, that due to	sort of medical episode on August 8, 2020, that caused him to lose consciousness and leave the roadway?
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2 3 4 5 6	consciousness and leave the roadway? A It's our company's understanding, that due to some medical condition, medical emergency condition, he lost consciousness, and after that, he departed and went off the road. Q I understand that's the company's position.	sort of medical episode on August 8, 2020, that caused him to lose consciousness and leave the roadway? A I don't. Q I want to ask you a couple of questions regarding liability insurance. As a safety director, do you have any responsibility in procuring liability
2 3 4 5 6 7	consciousness and leave the roadway? A It's our company's understanding, that due to some medical condition, medical emergency condition, he lost consciousness, and after that, he departed and went off the road. Q I understand that's the company's position. My question to you, sir, is, does your company have a	sort of medical episode on August 8, 2020, that caused him to lose consciousness and leave the roadway? A I don't. Q I want to ask you a couple of questions regarding liability insurance. As a safety director, do you have any responsibility in procuring liability insurance for the company?
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A Dehydration is 100 percent avoidable, yes.

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	Page 49	Page 51
1	between impairment, when driver is impaired by whatever	1 Q And you also would agree a driver is
2	reason is, by fatigue or by dehydration, to the extent	2 responsible for keeping himself physically and mentally
3	that he is not able to control the vehicle and the	3 alert while driving; agree?
4	reason of that as mild dehydration. So I don't	4 A Can you repeat it again?
5	understand what it means. Give me an objective	5 Q Sure. A driver is responsible for keeping
6	•	
7	definition of definition of mild dehydration.	6 himself physically and mentally alert while driving? 7 A Absolutely.
8	Q I can't I can't give you a medical	,
9	definition. But I am simply the purpose of my questions today is just to find out if you are aware of	8 Q All right. A driver is responsible for 9 ensuring that he or she is properly hydrated at all
10	the concept, that dehydration leads to impairment, leads	times to avoid any negative effects of dehydration;
11	to a driver not being his physical and mental best? Are	11 agree?
12	you aware of it or not?	12 A Can you repeat again?
13	A As I previously mentioned, I would agree that	13 Q Sure. A driver is responsible for ensuring
14	extreme dehydration, to the extreme levels, to the	that he or she is properly hydrated at all times to
15	extreme levels, would lead to the impairment, which	avoid any negative health consequences of the
16	would affect the ability to operate a commercial motor	16 dehydration, that might impair the ability to drive?
17	vehicle.	17 A Agree.
18	Q All right. And do you agree that an extreme	18 Q And, of course, a driver is responsible for
19	level of dehydration would be a preventable circumstance	19 being aware of the signs of fatigue or dizziness or
20	by the driver?	20 weakness or any other symptom that could impair one's
21	A I would agree.	21 ability to operate a 55,000-pound motor vehicle at
22	Q If a person had dehydration to the extent that	22 seventy-five miles per hour safely; agree?
23	they lost consciousness, you would agree that would be	23 A Agree.
24	preventable by the truck driver?	Q And in this context, I want you to assume that
25	A I would agree.	25 Mr. Milanovic was dehydrated and that's why, as you say,
		, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
	Page 50	Page 52
1	Q All right. So does HL provide any new hire,	1 he lost consciousness. All right?
2	long-haul, truck drivers any training regarding proper	2 A Not all right.
3	hydration?	3 Q Say again?
4	A That is not part of our training program.	4 A Not all right. You want me to assume. I
5	Q Does HL have any policies in place to prevent	5 don't assume.
6	incidents of driver dehydration?	6 Q Well, you do assume, and you've testified
7	A It's not of our policies.	7 previously to Mr. Pignato, you do assume that your
8	Q So, then, is it HL's position that proper	8 driver lost consciousness before he left the roadway;
9	hydration for its drivers is solely the responsibility	9 correct?
10	of the truck driver?	10 A Correct.
11	A It is obviously a responsibility of the truck	11 Q All right. So I want you to assume for the
12	driver. But, again, what HL does, it enforces hours of	moment that your defense in this case, whether you know
13	service policy, requiring drivers to take rest breaks,	it or not, is that your driver was dehydrated and that's
14	specifically for theirs needs of drinking water, eating	14 why he lost consciousness. Okay? Will you make that
15	properly, and other issues relating to their health and	assumption with me for purposes of these questions?
16	well-being.	16 A So you just want me to hypothetically assume?
17	Q All right. So as long as the driver stops at	Q I want you to assume my hypothetical, which
18	least once every eight hours, then the responsibility to	18 is, your driver lost consciousness because he was
19	stay hydrated rests solely with the driver?	dehydrated, yes. Will you assume that for purposes of
20	A Responsibility stays, yes, with the truck	20 my question?
21	driver, yes.	21 A For the purposes of just for the sake of
22	Q And I think you have already said this, but	the question, I can hypothetically assume it.
23	just to be clear, do you agree that dehydration is	Q So you would agree, if those were the facts, that would be a self-induced condition, that is,
24	100 percent avoidable?	

25

dehydration?

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health issues that prevent him from operating the truck

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Page 53 Page 55 A That would be self-induced, sorry, what? 1 safely, you would expect him to pull over as soon as it 2 Q The condition, the medical condition here, of 2 was safe to do so? 3 dehydration, would be self-induced; agree? 3 A Absolutely. 4 A Medical condition. So dehydration as a 4 Q If a driver fails to do that, puts himself in medical condition will be self-induced by the driver; 5 5 a state of dehydration by not consuming sufficient 6 6 right? fluids, not getting enough minerals, maybe operating a 7 7 truck that's too hot, and succumbs to this condition and Q That's my question to you. If the driver 8 becomes dehydrated and that's the reason he lost 8 a collision results, you would agree that collision is 9 consciousness, that is a self-induced medical condition; 9 entirely that driver's fault? 10 A I wouldn't. 10 agree? 11 Q You wouldn't agree with that? 11 A Agree. 12 A I wouldn't agree with it. 12 Q Entirely preventable by the driver? 1.3 A Absolutely preventable. 13 Q So what part of it do you disagree with? 14 Q All right. Now, I want you to also assume 14 A Not necessarily dehydration would play such a 15 role, that it would affect his ability to operate the 15 that the driver, your driver, has testified in this case 16 motor vehicle to such extent that he wouldn't be able to 16 that one of the problems he was having while driving on 17 operate safely. 17 this hot, summer day through Missouri and Oklahoma in 18 Q So you are saying you don't -- you don't know 18 ninety plus degree temperatures is that the 19 if that occurred here? 19 air-conditioning unit of his truck was not functioning 20 A As I previously said, your assumption implies 2.0 properly. Okay? Will you make that assumption with me? 21 that any sign, any sign. I, again, am pretty sure that 21 A Okay. Let's make an assumption. Q Okay. You agree with me, that would also be a 22 only extreme level dehydration would lead to the 22 23 condition where he is not able to operate the vehicle 2.3 preventable factor; right, sir? 24 safely. 24 A In terms of repair of conditioner, yes. 25 25 Q Let's see if you and I can agree on something. Q So if a driver is feeling fatigued or dizzy Page 54 Page 56 1 1 due to dehydration, brought about by the absence of Does it seem plausible or implausible to you that a 2 2 fluids and/or the rising temperatures in his truck, person would drive a good part of a hot August day in 3 3 those are preventable factors; correct? Missouri and Oklahoma, while suffering from such severe 4 A Correct. 4 dehydration, that he loses consciousness and runs off 5 Q All right. A driver is responsible for 5 the road, yet, he wouldn't have any symptoms at all 6 6 pulling over immediately on any signs or symptoms of before the moment he lost consciousness? Does that seem 7 dehydration or other health factors that influence his 7 plausible or implausible? A You know, speaking about some hypothetical --8 ability to drive the truck safely; right? 8 9 9 Q Plausible or implausible, sir? A No. 10 Q He is not responsible for pulling over 10 A Can I please answer your question? 11 immediately among signs or symptoms that he can't 11 Q You can answer the question, then you can 12 12 properly operate the truck? elaborate all you would like. Does that seem plausible 13 1.3 A Not necessarily immediately. or implausible? 14 14 A Sir, would you allow me to answer the Q Well, as soon as he can do so safely. 15 15 A As soon as he can do it safely. question? I will answer the question. 16 Q All right. You wouldn't want him slamming on 16 Q I would ask that you do so. Is it plausible 17 or implausible? Then you can explain your answer. 17 the brakes in the middle of the highway; right? 18 18 A My explanation is that, specifically in case 19 19 of Ognjen Milanovic, looking at his logbook, took a Q If he couldn't get adequately off the roadway, 20 and therefore became a hazard on the side of the road, 20 restroom break three hours before the accident, it's 21 you wouldn't want that; right? 21 not -- it's not possible in his situation, because he 22 A Right. 22 had three hours before that took a rest break of 23 Q But as soon as a truck driver could get to an 23 forty-five minutes, as I see on his logbook. 2.4 exit, if he's having signs or symptoms of heat or other 24 And for me, three hours of driving is not

enough to get to such a level of dehydration, that he

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was the medical condition that caused him to lose

consciousness, if that's true, okay, do you believe, in

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Page 57 Page 59 1 would be able to lose control, lose consciousness, lose 1 your experience in life and as the safety manager for 2 control of his vehicle. 2 this company, that it's possible for a person to succumb 3 Maybe in some other case it's plausible, with 3 to dehydration at such a fast rate, that the very first 4 some other guy, who probably, possibly drove without the 4 sign of a problem was the loss of consciousness? 5 rest break, not three hours, but let's say, I don't 5 A Sir, for all of my experience, and I think 6 6 know, fifteen hours. I've had a relatively large experience with a large 7 7 number of accidents, I never, ever observed weakness But in his case, in his specific case, where 8 8 we know exactly that he took a break three hours before that dehydration played any such role. 9 the accident, that is not plaus -- it's not possible. 9 Q In causing a driver to lose consciousness and 10 10 Q All right. I think we might be saying the have a collision? 11 same thing, but let me try to make sure about that 11 A Yes. before I move on. You are saying, that because this man 12 12 Q All right. And you make a good point. I 1.3 took a 45-minute break just three hours earlier, you 13 mean, you've probably investigated hundreds of 14 believe it is not plausible that he succumbed to 14 accidents, a thousand or more? 15 15 dehydration in an instant and lost consciousness and ran A I don't know the exact number. But from my 16 off the road without experiencing any other symptoms 16 experience, I knew cases where drivers were able to 17 first? Do you agree with that? 17 travel with not working AC and they were able to travel 18 A Sir, I -- again, I am not medical 18 large distances. And it didn't lead to the loss of --19 professional. 19 their ability to operate commercial vehicle was not 20 20 Q I accept that. I am asking for -impaired to such -- to such a level, where they lost 21 21 A I don't know whether it happens in an instant. consciousness and lost control of their vehicle. 22 I have no idea how it happens. Maybe it takes a few 22 Q Well, you make me pause and ask this, then. 23 minutes. I don't know. So if you could rephrase your 23 You are telling me that you have seen situations where 2.4 question, then I would be able to properly answer it. 2.4 drivers operate on hot days with not fully functioning 25 Q I am not sure I can. You are relying on the 25 air-conditioning units. Page 58 Page 60 1 1 fact that this gentleman took a three-hour break -- I'm A Yeah. 2 sorry, a 45-minute break three hours before; right? 2 Q And, yet, that didn't lead to, wasn't a 3 3 A Yes. He took a rest, yeah. contributing cause, to the collision, is that what you 4 4 Q And because of that, you do not believe that are telling us? 5 he succumbed to dehydration, to the extent that he lost 5 A Yes. 6 6 consciousness and ran off the roadway; right? Q All right. Then how is it that you, as the 7 7 A I don't believe that he succumbed to, safety manager or vice-president of safety, are aware of 8 specifically to the reason of dehydration. 8 the fact, that after a collision, there was a 9 Q Okay. 9 nonfunctioning air-conditioning unit? 10 Because of dehydration. 10 A You mentioned the fact that the air 11 \mathbf{O} You believe that makes no practical sense to 11 conditioner was not working. 12 12 you? Q Okay. 13 A Correct. 13 A I am not aware of it. 14 14 Q As the safety manager and/or vice-president of Q You are not aware of any problems with the AC 15 safety for this company for some eight plus years; 15 units in the trucks --16 right? 16 A No. 17 17 A I think practically he took a rest break of -- that you all put out on the roadway? Q 18 forty-five minutes, which is more than enough for him to 18 19 drink water, eat properly. And I don't believe that he 19 Q Do you agree, as a responsible motor carrier, 2.0 taking rest -- that rest break, wouldn't be able to do 20 HL is certainly aware of the critical need for properly 21 21 functioning air-conditioning units in its trucks; 22 Q Would common sense, and I know you are not a 2.2 correct? 23 medical doctor, but would common sense, if dehydration 23 A Absolutely correct.

Q All right. And you, of course, are aware that

a poorly performing AC unit, particularly in the hot

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2.3

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dehydrated to the point of losing consciousness, if.

Q Yes. And, in part, his dehydration was

brought about by a poorly functioning air conditioner,

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Page 61 Page 63 summer months, particularly in the south, can contribute 1 you would agree with me that both of those things are 2 to drivers overheating, becoming dehydrated, fatigued, 2 entirely preventable by the company and/or the driver? 3 et cetera; correct? 3 A Again, given all -- if -- if the loss of 4 A Correct. 4 consciousness is caused by dehydration, then, yes. 5 5 Q All right. So is HL responsible for ensuring Q All right. Can you show us -- it's going to 6 6 that the AC units in its big rigs are functioning be difficult, I don't know if you have the wherewith all 7 7 properly? or not to share your screen. It sounds like you have 8 8 paper documents there. 9 9 Can you show us, if you have to hold it up to Q And at the same time is the driver responsible 10 10 your camera, that's fine. But I want to see breaks that for reporting any problems with the AC unit in the truck 11 this gentleman took in the five hours before his 11 he or she is driving? 12 12 A Absolutely correct. 13 Q All right. Is it -- is it acceptable to HL, 13 All right. Now, I have seen that document in 14 that a driver from northern climates, on his very first 14 a colored form. Down at the bottom of that page, sir, 15 15 is there a Bates stamp, a control number in the bottom trip for HL into the south in the hot summer months, 16 right corner? 16 drove ten plus hours on a ninety plus degree day with a 17 A It says Report Time, there is a time stamp 17 poorly performing air-conditioning unit in his truck and 18 18 did not report that to the company? here. 19 Q I am looking in the bottom right corner. Is 19 A Yeah. That's -- that's not acceptable. A 20 there a control number there? 20 driver always -- any driver is supposed to report 21 A Bottom right corner, it's a page, it's not a 21 anything to the company right away. 22 22 Q And you have investigated this accident control number. 23 Q Okay. But the date of that log is the date of 23 thoroughly. Have you come across any evidence at all 24 the accident? 2.4 that your driver, Mr. Milanovic, reported to the company 25 A The date is August 8th. 25 before, during, or after his trip, that the Page 62 Page 64 1 1 air-conditioning unit was performing poorly? Q Okay. Can you take us through -- let's work 2 2 A He had never reported any of that. our way backwards. When was the last time that truck --3 Q Okay. Would it be acceptable, if that same 3 as I understand it, the logs -- you can put the exhibit 4 driver in those same circumstances, driving ten plus 4 down now. As I understand it, the logbooks are largely 5 hours in the heat, becomes dehydrated, loses electronic; agreed? 6 6 consciousness, and drives off the road into family A They are all electronic. 7 residences, is that acceptable to HL? 7 Q And as Mr. Milanovic explained in his 8 A Absolutely not acceptable. 8 deposition, a truck rolling down the road, it being in 9 Q All right. 9 motion, results in what entry on the log? What's the 10 A I'm sorry, my camera. 10 magic language on the log that tells you that the truck 11 Q And do you agree, if those are the facts, the 11 is in motion? 12 12 accident I just described, you would agree with me that A Driving time. 13 13 accident would be entirely preventable? Q Driving time, okay. And if the truck is not 14 14 A Would I agree, this vehicle accident would be in motion for how many minutes before it changes to 15 15 preventable? another term? 16 Q Yes. If the facts are as I laid out to you. 16 A It's a new vers -- it's a new model. So it's 17 17 not even in minutes, it's literally -- maybe not in a And I am really focusing on two facts. You have got a 18 poorly performing air-conditioning unit and a driver who 18 second, but within one minute. 19 becomes dehydrated to the point of losing consciousness. 19 Q Within one minute, okay. For purposes of our 2.0 Those two factors are both entirely preventable, aren't 20 analysis here, we will just say within one minute. 21 they, sir? 21 Okay? So when is the last time before this collision 22 A So he -- if, again, we assume that he got 22 this truck was not in motion or under the category

Q I am looking for two things, when and where.

23

24

25

driving time?

A Okay. Just a second.